

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

ACDA-19 AEC-11 CEQ-02 EPA-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 OMB-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /175 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2706

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8008

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, CH, FR, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE REACTION TO RECENT NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

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1. MAJOR JAPANESE PROPONENTS OF DISARMAMENT UNIFORMLY PRO-

TESTED FRANCE'S AND CHINA'S NUCLEAR TESTS. GOJ DELIVERED SIMILAR PROTEST NOTES TO GOF AND GPRC. FONOFF SPOKESMAN AND CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY NIKAIDO ISSUED SIMILAR PUBLIC STATEMENTS EXPRESSING REGRET THAT TESTS WERE CONDUCTED AND VOICED HOPE THEY WOULD NOT BE REPEATED. STATEMENTS NOTED JAPAN'S DESIRE FOR PEACE WITHOUT RESORT TO FORCE AND CALLED TESTS QTE DESTRUCTION OF ENVIRONMENT UNQTE. GOJ RESERVED RIGHT TO SEEK COMPENSATION FROM GOF AND GPRC FOR ANY DAMAGE SUFFERED BY JAPANESE PEOPLE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AS RESULT OF TESTS. LUMPING TESTS BY INDIA, FRANCE AND CHINA, FONMIN OHIRA TOLD PRESS JAPAN OPPOSED NUCLEAR TESTS BY ANY COUNTRY. (IN FACT, GOJ PROTEST AGAINST INDIA WAS SOMEWHAT MORE FORCEFUL) JAPANESE MEDIA, OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES, AND VARIOUS ANTI-WAR AND ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUPS IN JAPAN JOINED GOJ IN EXPRESSING STRONG REGRET OVER RECENT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

2. FONOFF AND MEDIA, ARE DISMAYED OVER SUDDEN RASH OF NUCLEAR TESTS. NHK TV LINKED US COMMITMENTS TO PROVIDE EGYPT AND ISRAEL WITH NUCLEAR REACTORS AND FUEL WITH INDIAN, FRENCH AND CHINESE EXPLOSIONS, AND PAKISTAN'S BUTTO'S REMARKS ON PAKISTAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT, IMPLYING THAT THIS SERIES OF DEVELOPMENTS ADVERSELY AFFECTED DISARMEMENT EFFORTS, ESPECIALLY EFFORTS TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. FONOFF OFFICIALS ARE QUOTED BY PRESS AS SAYING RECENT TESTS MIGHT PROVIDE QTE EXCUSE UNQTE FOR OTHERS TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND, EVEN IN JAPAN, TESTS WILL PROVIDE AMMUNITION FOR OPPONENTS OF NPT TO ENCOURAGE DELAY IN JAPAN'S RATIFICATION OF NPT.

3. EMBOFF DISCUSSED LATEST DEVELOPMENTS WITH FONOFF DIRECTOR DISARMEMENT DIV NOMURA WHO EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER SUDDEN MUSHROOMING OF NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS. HE NOTED THAT GOJ INTRA-MINISTERIAL PREPARATIONS FOR NEGOTIATING SAFEGUARDS WITH IAEA HAD NOT YET STARTED, LARGELY FOR BUREAUCRATIC REASONS, BUT CONCLUDED THAT UNEXPECTED RASH OF NUCLEAR TESTS WOULD STRENGTHEN HAND OF THOSE OPPOSED TO NPT RATIFICATION AND PROBABLY SLOW EFFORTS TO PROCEED DESPITE GOVTS COMMITMENT TO SEEK EARLY RATIFICATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, NOMURA ALSO NOTED THAT US COMMENT THUS FAR ON

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INDIA'S NUCLEAR EXPLOSION HAS BEEN NOTICEABLY RESTRAINED.

4. COMMENT: WE DETECT CONSIDERABLE DISMAY IN AT LEAST GOJ AND MEDIA OVER DEVELOPMENTS WHICH LEAD THEM TO FEAR THAT DISARMAMENT EFFORTS MIGHT SUDDENTLY BE SERIOUSLY UNDERMINED. CONCERN IS COMPOUNDED HERE SINCE DISARMAMENT CONSTITUTES MAJOR ELEMENT OF JAPANESE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY AND JAPAN'S POLICY-MAKERS HAVE SEEN MOVEMENT TOWARD DISARMAMENT

AS MAJOR FACTOR ENSURING JAPANESE SECURITY.
SHOESMITH

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